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ART 34 AMDT

CLAIMS

1. A device for facilitating the reading of a book by holding its pages in an open position, said device including an elongate member for spanning and supporting the cover of an open book, and two end-pieces directed inwardly towards each other at opposite ends of the elongate member and which include finger portions arranged to press against the pages,
characterised in that the end pieces are formed as separate components which are mounted to move relative to the elongate member.
2. A device according to Claim 1, wherein the elongate member has arms projecting from opposite ends to which the end-pieces are connected.
3. A device according to Claim 2, wherein said arms are angularly disposed with respect to the elongate member, projecting inwardly.
4. A device according to Claim 1, wherein the end-pieces have pivotal connections with the elongate member.
5. A device according to Claim 4, wherein each of said end-pieces is provided with a respective spring element for urging the respective finger portion towards the elongate member.
6. A device according to Claim 5, wherein each spring element

is in the form of a coil spring mounted on a pivot pin extending between a pair of spaced walls.

7. A device according to Claim 4, wherein an end of each finger portion has a substantially straight margin which extends substantially parallel to the axis of said pivotal connection for contact with the pages.
8. A device according to Claim 7, wherein said end of the finger portion is arcuately curved in a plane which is normal to its length.
9. A device according to Claim 4, wherein each of the end pieces has a lever portion projecting to the opposite side of the respective pivotal connection with respect to the finger portion.
10. A device according to Claim 9, wherein the finger and lever portions together are generally in the shape of a plane which has been curved in one dimension.
11. A device according to Claim 1, wherein the elongate member includes inner and outer telescopically-engaged elements whereby the distance between the end-pieces can be adjusted.
12. A device according to Claim 11, wherein the elongate member includes a platform which projects on opposite sides of said telescopically-engaged elements to support the cover of an open book.
13. A device according to Claim 12, wherein said platform is provided by a platform element and an underside of the platform is provided

with means for engagement with said outer telescopically-engaged element.